P23557.A02





ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Makoto IIKAWA

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Appln. No.

Group Art Unit: 2873

10/619,564

Examiner: Ricky L. MACK

Confirmation No. 7114

Filed

: July 16, 2003

For

: SOFT-FOCUS LENS BARREL

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 29, 2004, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicant submits that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Makoto IIKAWA

Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568

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June 21, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191